

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for monitoring, reporting and diagnosing fault information of a vehicle on a real-time basis both within the vehicle and outside the vehicle, comprising:

a quick access recorder that records fault information;

a portable hardware component that is removable from the vehicle and that uses ~~at least one of information fusion or~~ and onboard reasoning processing within the portable hardware component to provide at least one of diagnosis, prognosis, isolation or vehicle component identification associated with the recorded fault information;

an onboard data communication network that communicates the fault information between the quick access recorder and the portable hardware component; and

a data transmitting device ~~for transmitting that transmits~~ transmits information regarding the at least one of the diagnosis, prognosis, isolation or vehicle component identification, in real time, between the portable hardware component and at least one remote receiver location.

2. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the quick access recorder records the fault information from line replaceable units and the portable hardware component determines indications of legitimate faults.

3. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 2, wherein the line replaceable units are removable from the vehicle for further fault diagnoses.

4. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the portable hardware component is an Electronic Flight Bag that hosts a suite of applications for monitoring, reporting and diagnosing the fault information.

5. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 4, wherein the suite of applications performs real-time monitoring and analysis of the fault information received from the quick access recorder.

6. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 5, wherein the suite of applications enables display of notification messages pertaining to the monitoring and analysis of the fault information on the Electronic Flight Bag.

7. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 5, wherein the suite of applications enables transmission from the Electronic Flight Bag, via the data transmitting device, of notification messages to at least one of maintenance personnel or a remote host computer system as the at least one receiver in another location.

8. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the onboard data communication network is a data bus that enables exchange of information other than fault information.

9. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the data transmitting device is an air-ground transmitting device further comprising an air-ground antenna.

10. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the vehicle is an aircraft.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring, reporting and diagnosing fault information of a vehicle on a real-time basis both within the vehicle and outside the vehicle, comprising:

recording fault information on a quick access recorder;

communicating the fault information recorded on the quick access recorder to a portable hardware component, which is removable from the vehicle, through an onboard data communication network;

storing the fault information on the portable hardware component;

diagnosing the fault information with the portable hardware component using at least one of information fusion or and onboard reasoning processing within the portable hardware component to provide at least one of diagnosis, prognosis, isolation or vehicle component identification associated with the recorded fault information; and

transmitting information associated with the at least one of the diagnosis, prognosis, isolation or vehicle component identification, in real time, between the portable hardware component and at least one remote receiver location.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising displaying information associated with the at least one of the diagnosis, prognosis, isolation or vehicle component identification on a display unit of the portable hardware component.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein transmitting further comprises employing an air-ground data transmitting device to transmit information to a maintenance personnel as the at least one receiver in another location.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising initiating an immediate corrective action based on the information associated with the at least one of the diagnosis, prognosis, isolation or vehicle component identification.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising notifying the maintenance personnel of a need for later initiating a corrective action based on the information associated with the at least one of the diagnosis, prognosis, isolation or vehicle component identification.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the portable hardware component is an Electronic Flight Bag, the Electronic Flight Bag hosts a suite of applications for monitoring, reporting and diagnosing the fault information.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the suite of applications performs real-time monitoring and analysis of the fault information received from the quick access recorder.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising connecting air-ground data transmitting device to at least one of an air-ground antenna or a ground communication antenna.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the vehicle is an aircraft.